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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

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Ref: 8OC

October 30, 2003

Eric Medina
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Mr. Medina:

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is investigating and cleaning up lead and arsenic in some residential yards in the northeast Denver area. The area we are working in is called the Vasquez Boulevard / Interstate 70 (VB/I-70) Superfund Site. The boundaries are roughly from Colorado Boulevard to Brighton Boulevard, and from 52nd Avenue to Martin Luther King Boulevard. A portion of southwest Globeville is also included in the VB/I-70 boundaries, and the property at 4466 Delaware falls within that area.

The process is as follows: EPA contacts the property owner and sends an Access Agreement to be signed by the owner and returned to EPA. That document gives EPA legal permission to access the property and sample the soil in the yard. EPA can only receive access from the owner of the property.

Then we contact the owner to set up a time to come out and sample the soil in the yard. In a few weeks, EPA receives the results of the sampling effort. EPA is investigating two metals - lead and arsenic. If either metal is in the residential soil at a level above our level of concern, EPA offers to remove and replace the soil and re-landscape the yard. As it is late fall already, EPA may be able to sample, but will not be able to carry out any cleanup work, if necessary, until next year or the following, depending on where the property is on the list of properties to be cleaned up.

It is important to note that just because a property sits within the VB/I-70 boundaries, it does not automatically qualify for a cleanup. The levels of metals in residential yards varies widely, and each is sampled individually. EPA replaces soil in yards only if the sampling results show there are elevations in either lead or arsenic. Of the more than 4,000 homes in the VB/I-70 boundaries, EPA estimates that approximately 850 will require cleanup action. If a yard does require cleanup, the work is performed free of charge to the homeowner. The sampling is also free.



Please feel free to contact me if you have any further questions about this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Jennifer Chergo". The signature is fluid and elegant, with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

Jennifer Chergo
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